Law Enforcement Division Bi-Weekly Field Report – Region 1 8/30/15 – 9/12/15

### **DISTRICT 1**

CO Doug Hermanson worked the opening day for early teal season at Arnheim Waterfowl Area. When checking a group of hunters they told CO Hermanson that they had just called in a Report-All-Poaching (RAP) complaint about another group of hunters who started shooting before hunting hours and were shooting at mallards and wood ducks. CO Hermanson found the second group of waterfowl hunters and watched as they attempted to locate the birds they shot. During this time a wounded mallard they shot flew away. Upon making contact with the suspects CO Hermanson retrieved two wood ducks they had also shot. Enforcement action was taken for taking wood ducks during the closed season.

CO Doug Hermanson worked the Arnheim area one evening and waited as a group of hunters was coming in late. One hunter fired a shot nearly one hour after legal hours ended. When CO Hermanson made contact with the subject and asked about it, he stated that he hadn't fired his gun at a bird yet this season and thought if he at least shot once it would "change his mojo" for future hunts. Enforcement action was taken.

COs Matt Eberly and Doug Hermanson worked the Portage waterway over the Labor Day weekend. One marine check in Dollar Bay resulted in finding two anglers who were fishing without licenses (they had not purchased one in years), the boat hadn't been registered, and they had no personal flotation devices (PFDs) or other safety equipment aboard their vessel. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Brian Lasanen was on ORV patrol on in Ontonagon County. CO Lasanen observed a four wheeler with two occupants on the ORV designed for one, and neither was wearing helmets. When the riders recognized the officer, the passenger tossed his beer can into the woods. CO Lasanen stopped the ORV for the violations and noted that the driver showed signs of being intoxicated. The officer ran him through several standard field sobriety tests, which resulted in the driver being over twice the legal limit. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Brian Lasanen, while working the Misery Bay area in Ontonagon County, observed a vehicle lose control. The car left the roadway, entered the ditch, hit an embankment and ended up against a tree. CO Lasanen made contact with the driver who was in severe head, neck and back pain. CO Lasanen rendered first aid and held C-spine until medical personnel arrived. The driver was transported to Portage Health and is expected to make a full recovery.

CO Denny Gast also worked the Portage waterway over the Labor Day holiday weekend. CO Gast contacted several individuals for marine violations, including towing

a tuber without an observer and kayakers and canoes operating without PFDs on board. Enforcement action was taken.

CO David Miller received a RAP complaint about personal watercraft (PWC) operators chasing ducks. The complainant was able to take down the watercraft registration numbers and pass them along. CO Miller was able to locate the individuals who were operating the PWCs. Enforcement action was taken.

While working the mouth of the Huron for ORV activity, CO Miller was approached by an individual who was looking for his lost wife. The husband told CO Miller that he had received a text earlier from his wife that she was going stream fishing. A few hours later, she called him, all in a panic, said she was lost and the car was stuck and on fire before the cell phone call was dropped. After searching the area for about an hour, CO Miller found her walking on a two track. The crispy car was located behind a cable where she had gotten stuck. She had built a fire next to the car, thinking that she could put the ashes under the tire for traction. Instead the fire escaped and caught the car on fire.

CO David Miller was working areas in which ORVs were causing damage to the beach and driving through a river. CO Miller contacted a Jeep operator who thought it was ok to be driving down the beach and across the mouth of the river. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Brian Lasanen received a complaint of a person on Lake Gogebic who had set lines off of his dock. CO Lasanen was able to locate the set lines and contacted the homeowner. The CO conducted a brief interview with the suspect and the suspect asked, "How do you expect me to catch fish?" The officer responded, "Like everybody else, sit and wait until a fish bites your line". CO Lasanen had dealt with the same subject for the same violation this past winter while ice fishing. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Brian Lasanen worked a Catch and Release fishing tournament on Lake Gogebic. There were about 150 anglers who participated in the tournament. Good compliance was noted with all anglers, with several positive comments on seeing CO Lasanen out on the lake.

Sgt. Grant Emery received a late night complaint of an unlicensed bear hunter shooting a bear. While investigating this complaint Sgt. Emery found an individual who had shot a cub bear. The subject had called and turned himself in and took full responsibility for mistaking the bear for an adult. Enforcement action was taken.

Sgt. Grant Emery investigated a complaint of hunter harassment and larceny of hunting equipment. A bear hunter, while hunting on public land, had been confronted by another hunter about hunting too close to him, that he had been hunting that area for years. When returning to his stand the next day, the victim found his tree stands and trail camera was missing. Sgt. Emery was able to collect evidence left behind by the

suspects at the scene where the hunting equipment was stolen. The investigation is ongoing.

CO Jared Ferguson was on patrol when he observed an ORV coming down the roadway at a very high rate of speed. As the ORV passed CO Ferguson it was also noted the operator was not wearing a helmet. CO Ferguson was able to turn around safely and stop the operator of the ORV. The operator stated that in Wisconsin they don't need a helmet. CO Ferguson gave the operator a quick geography lesson and enforcement action was taken.

CO Brian Bacon and PCO William Haskin worked a boat patrol on lakes in Dickinson County. A check of a subject fishing on the Groveland Mine complex found the angler fishing without a license and in possession of a short bass. Enforcement action was taken.

COs Jason Wicklund and Dave Painter responded a complaint of gunfire and an explosion south of Crystal Falls that sent a dust cloud high into the air and shook homes. The COs were very familiar with possible suspect location of the blast and arrived along with the Michigan State Police (MSP) to investigate. The landowner and his friend decided to blow up an old barn to use the concrete beneath it for a mobile home. Large amounts of tannerite and high impact fireworks were wired to the old barn prior to the explosion. Both individuals were felons and prohibited from possessing explosives/firearms. Several artillery shells, pipe-bomb type explosives, unused tannerite and a rifle were seized. The MSP Bomb Squad was sent from Grayling to secure the explosives.

CO Jason Wicklund and PCO Isaac Tyson responded to the complaint of a wolf collar in mortality mode south of Bessemer in Gogebic County. At the scene, the COs located a juvenile male wolf near a pond. Preliminary investigation has determined that the wolf died of a gunshot wound. The investigation is ongoing.

CO Jason Wicklund and PCO Isaac Tyson were on patrol along the ORV trail south of Iron River when they observed a van that had been in the area for a while. The COs ran the license plate and the van came back stolen out of Florence County, Wisconsin. The scene was secured and local officers and deputies from Florence County arrived to process the evidence. A possible suspect in the stolen van case was identified and the COs found him walking a short distance from the van. The suspect was detained, interviewed by the officers, and lodged for possession of marijuana.

CO Jason Wicklund and PCO Isaac Tyson contacted large groups of ORV operators during the holiday weekend. Failing to register and or title ORVs, riding double, equipment violations, and alcohol violations were addressed.

CO Jason Wicklund and PCO Isaac Tyson were on patrol in the remote northern part of Iron County when they observed a vehicle blocking an old road. The COs got out of the patrol truck and heard gunfire off in the distance. After a short walk the officers

observed two males shooting a shotgun and rifle into a big maple tree on state land. Contact was made with the individuals and the COs learned that one of them was a felon. The weapons were seized and the damage to trees on state land along with felon in possession of firearms was addressed.

CO Jason Wicklund and PCO Isaac Tyson were first on scene to an ORV accident in Houghton County. The operator of the ORV was riding with a passenger illegally and failed to negotiate a sharp curve on a gravel road. The ORV left the roadway, struck a hill and the riders were ejected. Both riders suffered serious injuries and were taken from the scene via ambulance. Enforcement action was taken for speed, and riding double on an ORV not designed for passengers.

CO Jason Wicklund and PCO Isaac Tyson were heading to a remote northern Iron County lake for a late night fishing patrol when they observed a side by side ORV heading toward them with an equipment violation. A traffic stop was made and both occupants had open intoxicants in the ORV. Sobriety tests determined the driver of the ORV was over twice the legal limit to drive. The driver also had three prior drunk driving arrests. The driver was arrested and lodged in the Iron County Jail on felony operation of a motor vehicle while intoxicated.

CO Jason Wicklund and PCO Isaac Tyson were driving through Iron River and observed two women fighting near the highway. Contact was made with the combatants and an ambulance was called to treat the injuries. One female was taken into custody and lodged on assault charges.

CO Jason Wicklund and PCO Isaac Tyson were parked along the ORV Trail near a campground doing paperwork when dispatch advised them of an intoxicated male who was in the campground causing a disturbance. The COs looked over and saw the male stumbling down the sidewalk heading away from them. Contact was made and an open bottle of vodka that was hidden in his shorts was recovered. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jason Wicklund and PCO Isaac Tyson were dispatched to a complaint of angler harassment on a remote Iron County lake. Contact was made with the complainants who advised they were fishing near a fish crib and were yelled at by the people on shore and told to leave. When they didn't, golf balls were hit over the boat and near them. Contact was made with suspects and a lesson on fishing etiquette, riparian rights, and litter was addressed.

CO Jason Wicklund and PCO Isaac Tyson spent Labor Day on Lake Gogebic. Marine activity was limited but the COs did encounter numerous violations, including possession of undersized bass, possession of undersized walleyes, no fishing license, and fail to register watercraft. Enforcement action was taken.

Sgt. Marc Pomroy contacted a group of ORV operators on the Norway Truck Trail. A quick review of ORV laws was conducted and the subjects were reminded of the 25

mph county ordinance for ORVs on county roads. An hour later Sgt. Pomroy came across the same group of ORVs on a sharp corner, with one of the operators off the road and into the trees. The subject was not injured in the crash, and was very embarrassed when Sgt. Pomroy addressed the speed issue.

COs Brian Bacon and Jared Ferguson responded to a complaint of shooting on state lands. While they wrapped up the initial complaint, CO Bacon observed an ORV being operated on the roadway at a high rate of speed. The operator was not wearing a helmet, and CO Bacon conducted a stop on the ORV. Enforcement action was taken.

Sgt. Marc Pomroy was flagged down by two bear hunters who had locked their keys in their truck. Sgt. Pomroy was able to get the vehicle open for the hunters and they were able to continue with their bear hunt.

CO Mark Leadman and PCO Mark Zitnik found three truckloads of litter dumped at a privately owned gravel pit. The officers contacted the individual whose name was found in the garbage. Enforcement action is pending.

CO Mark Leadman and PCO Mark Zitnik were patrolling Deer Lake when they encountered an individual who tried to convince them he was not fishing. After advising him that the officers had observed him fishing he showed them where his equipment was hidden and admitted that he was fishing. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Mark Leadman and PCO Mark Zitnik were working Little Presque Isle and Wetmore landing where several land use violations were occurring. There are no glass bottles, alcohol, camping or campfires allowed in that area. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Mark Leadman and PCO Mark Zitnik were working waterfowl hunters on the James Jeske Flooding. While making contact with two hunters returning to the launch site, one of them was caught trying to unload his firearm. The firearm was fully loaded in the watercraft while underway. The other subject had lead shot in his possession. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Trey Luce and PCO Mark Zitnik were sitting at the Lake Levasseur access site when they observed two subjects not wearing helmets on a dirt bike drive through a blocked off logging road. After making the stop it was also found the dirt bike was unregistered. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Brett DeLonge worked with the staff from Wells State Park to give a presentation to a large audience about the job functions and responsibilities of a Michigan Conservation Officer. CO DeLonge displayed a large fur kit and answered many questions regarding wildlife in Michigan, how to become a conservation officer, new law changes, and the different types of patrols the officer's conduct. The presentation went well and planning has begun for presentations in the park for next year.

Cedar River Marina in Menominee County recently celebrated its 10 year anniversary. CO Brett DeLonge worked with staff from the marina to hold a celebration with birthday cake and tours of the facility. CO DeLonge discussed proper boater safety and boating safety checks with a number of boaters participating in the event. Many boaters thanked CO DeLonge for having a law enforcement presence at such an event so they could feel more comfortable talking with a conservation officer.

CO Mark Leadman made contact with several ORVs operating in a closed area. Contact was made as the ORVs were going around gates. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Mark Leadman and PCO Mark Zitnik made contact with and assisted a successful bear hunter retrieve his downed bear from the woods. The hunter was very appreciative of the officers' efforts.

Sgt. Ryan Aho and CO Brett DeLonge worked the opening day of bear season. Contact was made with a bear hunter operating an ORV without a helmet. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Brett DeLonge encountered an ORV being operated on a state highway. The ORV was transporting passengers when not designed. The operator of the ORV had also failed to license the ORV. Enforcement action was taken.

### **DISTRICT 2**

Sgt. Jerrold Fitzgibbon working the start of bear season came across a vehicle parked in the middle of a forest road blocking access to anyone else. A five minute walk down the road led to a bear hunter who had set up within 100 yards of the end of the road, sitting in his stand without wearing hunter orange. A walk back to his vehicle to remove it from the center of the road and a ticket for not wearing hunter orange followed.

Sgt. Jerrold Fitzgibbon stopped at a bear hunting camp to talk with some nervous hunters. A bear was being unloaded from a pickup and a proud hunter had a story to share. After a short conversation a second bear was produced that was very small. The nervous hunter wasn't very proud of the small bear that had come in alone and was worried that he'd shot a "cub". A check of the bear revealed it was not a cub, just very small.

Sgt. Jerrold Fitzgibbon pulled up to an intersection and watched as a dirt bike came to the intersection across from him. The young rider decided turning onto the state highway was a bad idea and instead decided to cut through the new lawn in someone's yard next to the road. When he turned, the expired ORV license was visible and the officer pulled him over. While talking with the 14 year old youth about legal operation of his dirt bike, the landowner came out to make sure that the officer and the youth knew how upset he was about the tracks in his freshly planted grass. The youth apologized to

the landowner (who accepted it) and he was escorted home with a pamphlet on ORV laws to share with his parents.

CO Rob Freeborn and PCO Jacob Griffin were on routine ORV patrol during the start of the Labor Day Holiday weekend. Overall compliance was good. However the COs did encounter an ORV operator without an ORV license and another individual operating an ORV without a helmet on a state highway. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Rob Freeborn and PCO Jacob Griffin received a complaint that a subject had a large fire the previous night and was seen throwing various furniture items in the fire along with a TV. The COs located the vacant lot where the subject had been burning and located the glass tube of a TV along with other metal and glass objects in the smoldering pile. The COs questioned the subject who admitted to burning the previous night. Enforcement action was taken for illegal burning.

CO Michael Evink was conducting a Labor Day Holiday marine patrol in the Fayette area when he came across a boat with an expired registration and loaded with camping equipment. The couple who lived nearby on the mainland had torn down the camp they had established on an island. Enforcement action was taken

CO John Wenzel assisted MSP troopers at the scene of an ORV accident. A 15 year old was operating a dirt bike on the right-of-way of a state highway. The operator was operating after dark without a headlight and without adult supervision. The operator struck a cable attached to a mailbox and crashed his dirt bike. The juvenile was transported by ambulance to the hospital for a possible broken collar bone. The MSP troopers are investigating the crash.

CO John Wenzel, while on vacation hiking on Isle Royale, came across a hiker who had just fallen, striking her head on a rock, causing a severe laceration to her forehead. The hiker was several miles from the next campsite. The hiker had wrapped the wound with a bandana, but it was still bleeding heavily. CO Wenzel, being a first aid instructor, had come prepared for just such a medical emergency. CO Wenzel applied sterile gauze and wrapped the hiker's head with wrap to keep the gauze in place. The hiker and her companion then continued toward the next campground.

CO John Wenzel spoke to a Criminal Justice class at Bay College. CO Wenzel spoke about a career with Law Enforcement Division and answered student questions about the job of a conservation officer.

CO John Wenzel, along with other District 2 conservation officers, worked a group ORV patrol along the Lake Superior shoreline. CO Wenzel patrolled the shoreline in a vessel looking for ORVs on the beach. Other officers patrolled the area on ORVs. Many contacts were made and several tickets were issued.

CO Jon Busken participated in a group patrol in Luce County over the Labor Day weekend and contacted a hunter baiting for bear. During the contact a firearm was found in his vehicle, and when checked, it was discovered the firearm was loaded. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jon Busken, while on patrol in Luce County over the Labor Day weekend, observed an ORV being ridden double. Contact was made with the operator, a father and daughter pair. The father told the daughter that he had not expected to see conservation officers that day. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jon Busken participated in a group patrol in northern Luce County over the Labor Day weekend. The CO observed two unregistered ORVs being ridden double and contacted the operators. It turned out the group consisted of a father, son, daughter and stepson. The daughter told the officer that she had told her father to purchase ORV licenses because conservation officers "Would be out today." The father opted not to because he said he rarely saw a CO on the trails during holiday weekends. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jon Busken was on patrol when he observed a motorcycle being operated with an expired registration. Contact was made with the juvenile operator who was also operating without a cycle endorsement and with no insurance. The juvenile told the CO who the motorcycle belonged to. The officer recognized the owner and had given him an ORV related warning several weeks before. The officer escorted the rider and bike back to the owner. When the owner saw the officer pull into the driveway he smiled and said, "I am going to get one this time aren't I?" CO Busken advised that his assumption was correct. Enforcement action was taken.

COs Jon Busken, John Wenzel, Kevin Postma, Bobby Watson, Robert Freeborn, Sgt. Mike Hammill and PCOs Jake Griffin and Justin Muehlhauser worked together on a group ORV patrol in the northern part of Luce County. The COs' main focus was to keep ORVs off the shoreline of Lake Superior and other critical dune areas. Numerous ORV violations were encountered during the patrol along with several fish and game violations.

CO Bobby Watson and Sgt. Mike Hammill were on ORV patrol when they encountered two individuals fishing in a remote location. CO Watson conducted a routine license check and discovered one of the individuals had not purchased her 2015 fishing license. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Bobby Watson and Sgt. Mike Hammill were on patrol when they received a report from a local campground that a loaded rifle had been found by two young hikers who were very close to the campground. The COs collected the loaded 30.06 and remaining hunting equipment that was found and attempted to locate the owner. Hours later, CO Watson received a phone call from the owner. Contact was made with the rightful owner of the rifle, and a discussion on why it is dangerous to leave a loaded rifle in the woods

within a few feet of a popular walking trail where kids play. The hunter was happy to recover his equipment and claimed he would no longer be leaving his rifle in the woods.

PCOs Justin Muehlhauser and Jake Griffin, along with CO Kevin Postma, contacted anglers fishing for Lake Trout. The PCOs inquired about the anglers' success, to which the anglers advised that they had one Lake Trout and one Atlantic salmon. One of the anglers then asked about the size limit for lake trout. The PCOs informed the angler of the proper length and then proceeded to ask questions of their own. The angler was eventually ticketed for a short Lake Trout.

CO Jeff Panich worked the first season bear opener in Chippewa County. During the day, several hunters were checked. Three illegal baits were located, as well as two early deer baits and two illegal tree stands

# **DISTRICT 3**

CO Nick Torsky received a RAP complaint regarding an undersized sturgeon being taken on Otsego Lake. With only partial information, CO Torsky investigated and determined a suspect and accomplice. After interviews resulted in confessions, tickets were issued for possession of an undersized sturgeon to both the angler who caught it, and the subject he gave it to.

CO Matt Theunick and PCO Mike Haas patrolled Bois Blanc Island per ORV complaints of operating on the shoreline/beaches. Although no beach runners were encountered, tickets were issued for unlicensed ORVs.

CO Matt Theunick and PCO Mike Haas stopped an ORV with two adults on it and an infant between them. The subjects had no helmets, the ORV was unlicensed and they were operating on a state highway. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Eric Bottorff and PCO Kip Maher patrolled Cornwall Flooding in the Pigeon River Country, checking multiple boaters and anglers. Tickets were issued for fishing without a license and no PFDs on boats.

Sgt. Greg Drogowski received information on possible deer poaching. CO Nick Torsky and Sgt. Drogowski contacted a subject at the residence, who gave consent to search the premises. No evidence of deer killing was found. However, the subject had an outstanding fugitive warrant out of Kentucky for child support. Kentucky advised they would extradite the subject. He was arrested and lodged in the Cheboygan County jail.

CO Eric Bottorff gave presentations at two hunter safety classes, one in Cheboygan and one in Indian River.

CO Mark DePew reports a deer case stemming from a taxidermist inspection in March resulted in a conviction for a nine point buck taken illegally. Penalties included \$1,000 reimbursement for the deer, in addition to fines and costs, and loss of hunting privileges.

Conservation Officers Brad Bellville and Tim Rosochacki were on patrol when they had two ORVs drive by them at a high rate of speed on a county road. When the officers made contact with the riders they were issued tickets for driving at a speed greater than reasonable.

CO Brad Bellville contacted two ORVs operators climbing hills in a gravel pit on state land without helmets. CO Bellville explained where they could legally ride and issued tickets for not wearing their helmets and gave warnings for operating in a closed area.

Conservation Officer Brad Bellville contacted five ORV operators, two adults who were not wearing helmets and three youth who were wearing helmets. CO Bellville explained the importance of setting a good example for their children and issued tickets for operating without a helmet.

Conservation Officers Paul Fox and Jonathan Sklba were patrolling Grand Lake during Labor Day when they encountered a subject operating a PWC without a life jacket. The subject also violated the 150 foot within a dock no-wake rule. Contact was made with the subject, who advised he knew what the law was. Enforcement action was taken.

Conservation Officers Paul Fox and Brad Bellville were on patrol late at night when they observed a vehicle in front of them disregard a stop sign and squeal its tires around the intersection. The COs paced the vehicle at speeds near 75 mph on a dirt road. The COs conducted a traffic stop and also discovered open intoxicants in the vehicle. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Tim Rosochacki contacted the father of a youth who had been operating an ORV without a helmet near Rockport and without supervision. He also had set out a hunting blind and deer bait early. CO Rosochacki explained the violations he had encountered with his son and issued a ticket for allowing his son to operate an ORV unsupervised.

Conservation Officers Kelly Ross and Robert Slick were patrolling state land when they contacted operators of two trucks without license plates and were found to also not have insurance. The operators stated they were operating them as ORVs and had put stickers on them and believed they did not need to have them plated. The officers explained that the ORV law did not apply to the trucks and they had to be plated. The operators were issued tickets for not having insurance and a trailer was brought in to tow them away.

Conservation Officers Kelly Ross and Robert Slick were checking access sites along the AuSable River when they saw a truck with a broken tail light and being operated carelessly. The intoxicated driver was arrested for driving under the influence of alcohol.

Conservation Officer Jon Sklba responded to a complaint of ORVs operating carelessly; when he arrived in the area he located an underage operator climbing hills without supervision. CO Sklba followed the youth back to his camp and CO Sklba addressed

numerous violations including ORV trespass, operating without helmets and ORVs without spark arrestors. The youth's father was issued a ticket for allowing the youth to operate unsupervised and given warnings for the other violations he encountered.

Conservation Officer Jon Sklba contacted a husband and wife without helmets on a four wheeler that was not designed to carry a passenger operating on a snowmobile trail. The operator stated he saw signs prohibiting wheeled motor vehicles but did not know if that meant them; his wife stated she had told him they were not supposed to be on the trail system and he was issued a ticket for riding where prohibited and warned for the other violations.

CO Bill Webster contacted three anglers fishing on the Thunder Bay River with a bucket of bass. CO Webster asked if they had measured the fish and they stated they did not have a tape measure, but knew all of the fish were long enough. This ended up not being the case and the angler who caught the short fish was issued a ticket.

Conservation Officers Bill Webster and Andrew Monnich were at the Alpena Harbor after dark when they saw boat without navigation lights being operated at a high rate of speed coming off of Lake Huron. Once the boat came into the river the anglers started trolling; the officers were able to make contact with the anglers. One subject did not have a fishing license. Tickets were issued for operating without navigation lights and fishing without a license and the occupants were warned for other violations.

Conservation Officers Bill Webster and Andrew Monnich were checking an early bear bait when they encountered two individuals tending to the bait. After talking with them they admitted to starting the bait early along with numerous other baits. They were issued a ticket for establishing an early bait.

COs Bill Webster and Andrew Monnich contacted the operator of an ORV who was driving along a state highway without a helmet and without any registration stickers. The operator received a ticket for not wearing a helmet and given warnings for the other violations.

Conservation Officer Andrea Albert and PCO Jill Berry participated at the Alba Sportsmen's Club Hunter Safety class. Sixteen students received instruction with all receiving their hunter safety certificates.

Conservation Officer Andrea Albert and PCO Jill Berry responded to a road kill bear complaint in Antrim County. The carcass was retrieved by the officers and taken to a local processor to be distributed to families in need.

CO Andrea Albert responded to a complaint from a local hospital of a person being bitten by a wild raccoon. The injured raccoon was being illegally held in captivity when the person was bitten. The raccoon was seized and will be tested for rabies.

While patrolling Lake Charlevoix, CO Andrea Erratt encountered an unregistered sailboat. The owner of the boat stated he had bought it on Craig's List, but never registered it. A ticket was issued.

While working on Antrim County's upper chain of lakes after dark, Conservation Officer Steve Speigl and PCO Josh Wright observed a boat being operated without navigation lights. The COs made contact with the boat driver who said he was only paddling. The boat driver changed his story after the officers told him they had watched him for some time driving by using the motor. The subject was also fishing without a license. Enforcement action was taken.

While on patrol CO Andrea Erratt encountered a family operating several ORVs. One of the subjects was operating without a helmet and had a two year old as a passenger on a machine that was not designed to carry a passenger. A ticket was issued for operating without a helmet and a warning given for riding double.

While patrolling the south arm of Lake Charlevoix, CO Andrea Erratt encountered a group of kayakers paddling in 22 feet of water. None of the individuals were in possession of PFDs. When asked about the lack of PFDs, the subjects stated they had them, but left them in the car. Enforcement action was taken.

Conservation Officer Carl VanderWall took part in "Pop with a Cop" prior to the Petoskey High School football game. The event involves local and state law enforcement officers interacting with the public in a relaxed setting answering questions. There was a large turnout of citizens and many positive contacts made.

Conservation Officer Carl VanderWall assisted the Emmet County Sheriff's Department with the arrest of a subject for operating a vehicle while under the influence of drugs.

While patrolling for ORVs, Conservation Officer Carl VanderWall encountered an ORV operating in a prohibited area. Enforcement action was taken.

#### **DISTRICT 4**

CO Justin Vanderlinde and PCO Calvin Smith received several complaints of hunters harvesting misidentified birds during the early teal hunting season. On one complaint that the COs responded to a witness had observed the hunter shoot, retrieve, then throw the illegal bird into the bushes and continue hunting. COs investigated and interviewed the suspect. The suspect admitted to shooting a merganser instead of a teal and PCO Smith retrieved the illegal bird with assistance from the suspect. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Justin Vanderlinde and PCO Calvin Smith were working the salmon run on the Betsie River. PCO Smith observed an angler who appeared to be snagging. PCO Smith checked the angler and ascertained the angler was fishing with a treble hook which is not allowed on this river. The angler also did not have his fishing license in

possession. The officers followed the angler back to his campsite so he could retrieve his fishing license. At the camp, the COs located a large quantity of marijuana hidden in the angler's tent and vehicle. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Rebecca Hopkins and PCO Hugh McMath taught a portion of a hunter safety class in Benzie County, and assisted with hunter safety field days in Leelanau and Benzie Counties the following day. The officers assisted the participants in getting hands-on experience with non-firing guns and blank ammunition, ensuring they understood how to safely load, unload, and operate the guns. The officers answered many questions from youth and parents, and the participants and volunteers were appreciative of the officers' help.

CO Rebecca Hopkins and PCO Hugh McMath were on foot patrol along the Betsie River, using binoculars to identify possible violations from a distance. At one point, the officers observed two men attempting to snag fish out of a deep hole, and using treble hooks (prohibited tackle). Both subjects were observed for several minutes prior to contact. The COs issued a ticket for attempted snagging, and educated the anglers about the new regulation regarding treble hooks on the Betsie River.

CO Rebecca Hopkins and PCO Hugh McMath conducted a patrol on the Betsie River and contacted several anglers, one of whom was fishing with a treble hook. As the officers approached, the subject noticed the officers, so he cast toward the opposite bank as if to intentionally snag his treble hook and snap it off. The officers quickly saw what he was trying to do and directed him to stop. When the COs asked to see his fishing license and his friend's, his friend was able to produce a license while the first subject was not, claiming he had forgotten it in his car. Still without a license, the angler tried to remember his father's name and date of birth, thinking he could pose as his father who actually had a fishing license. More red flags went up for the officers when the subject stumbled on his birth month, and claimed he was born in 1965, so they questioned him about it. He finally confessed he was 22, and did not have a fishing license. The subject was issued a ticket for fishing without a license and given a verbal warning for improper tackle.

While patrolling along the Betsie River, CO Rebecca Hopkins and PCO Hugh McMath smelled burning marijuana. Using binoculars, they located the subject who was smoking and observed the subject pass it to another, who continued to smoke. Use of the marijuana continued in front of a young child. The COs contacted the subjects, and both admitted to smoking and passing the marijuana. One subject produced a medical marijuana card for the officers. The other subject had no such card. Charges are pending review from the Benzie County Prosecutor's Office.

CO Rebecca Hopkins and PCO Hugh McMath responded to a motor vehicle-motorcycle accident on M-22 south of Frankfort. As the first law enforcement officers on scene, the COs checked on the injured motorcyclist, obtained driver information, and worked on traffic control and scene safety. Emergency Medical Services (EMS) personnel

rendered care to the injured motorcyclist, and the scene was transferred over to local deputies when they arrived.

During a kayak patrol on the Betsie River, CO Rebecca Hopkins and PCO Hugh McMath observed a subject cast a line into the river and observed a considerable splash from the weight of the rig being used. The officers also noted that the hook looked like a large treble hook, which is prohibited on the Betsie River. Further investigation revealed that the subject was fishing with a plain, un-baited, one-half inch treble hook, with a large weight suspended on the line below it. The subject claimed that he had a Rapala lure attached to the line earlier, but that it came off. The COs found no evidence that another lure had been attached to the line. The angler was informed that even if he had a lure on it, his rig was still illegal because it was un-baited and the treble hook itself was not attached to a lure, and was greater than 3/8 inch from point to shank. The subject was issued a ticket for an illegal lure with suspended weight.

CO Holly Pennoni and PCO Joshua Jackson received two separate complaints of hunters shooting wood ducks during the early teal waterfowl season. When contacted, the hunters were unsure of what kind of duck they had shot. The COs educated the hunters on waterfowl ID and explained the importance of waterfowl identification prior to shooting. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Holly Pennoni and PCO Joshua Jackson observed smoke coming from a large pile of remodeling debris at an abandoned residence. The COs spoke to several neighbors who stated two individuals had a very large fire the night before. COs Pennoni and Jackson were able to identify who was responsible for the fire and enforcement action was taken for illegal disposal of solid waste and leaving the fire unattended.

CO Holly Pennoni and PCO Joshua Jackson attended the free youth deer license sales promotion at Meijer's in Cadillac. The COs answered many questions relating to youth hunting seasons, apprentice hunting, and the mentored youth hunt.

CO Josiah Killingbeck, Lake County, observed an angler fishing in a row boat that he recognized from earlier in the summer who he had issued a ticket to for fishing without a license. When the angler saw CO Killingbeck's patrol vehicle, he headed for a nearby wooded area. CO Killingbeck was able to catch up to the angler who was now dragging the row boat through brush in an attempt to conceal himself and when CO Killingbeck walked up to him, the angler immediately stated, "I was not fishing." CO Killingbeck told the subject he had watched him fish and as the angler continued to deny fishing, CO Killingbeck located a fishing rod and the tail of fish sticking out from under some leaves. CO Killingbeck then found three pike, two of which were undersized. Once the angler knew that he was caught, he admitted that he was trying to hide because he still had not purchased a 2015 fishing license. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Josiah Killingbeck observed a slow moving vehicle on a remote road in Lake County. After observing the vehicle for some time the vehicle stopped and two subjects went into the woods with a chain saw. When CO Killingbeck went to check for a wood

permit the pair had already cut down a live cherry tree. Neither could produce a permit and they admittedly were collecting the burls to sell. A check through LEIN revealed the driver had a suspended operator's license and the passenger had warrants out for her arrest. While searching their vehicle, CO Killingbeck located syringes and drug paraphernalia. Both subjects were arrested and charges are pending.

While off duty, CO Josiah Killingbeck observed a vehicle as it drove down a two track and turned into the woods, creating its own trail. CO Killingbeck contacted a nearby sheriff's deputy and requested assistance. Lake County Sheriff Department responded and made contact with the vehicle, whose occupants were now in the process of cutting wood. CO Killingbeck, now on duty, was able to return back to the location and address numerous violations, which included the off road violation and driving over live trees and vegetation.

CO Josiah Killingbeck observed a vehicle driving past him that he recognized as a subject who he had issued tickets to for no insurance and expired plates a few weeks prior. CO Killingbeck had recently been told that the subject had not renewed his plates or obtained insurance and was bragging that CO would never be able to catch him again. CO Killingbeck pulled behind the vehicle and confirmed that the plates were still expired and stopped the driver. The driver could only produce an expired proof of insurance and when CO Killingbeck contacted the insurance company to confirm the status, it was discovered it was invalid due to lack of payment. Enforcement action was taken for the second time.

COs Josiah Killingbeck and Kyle Publiski were clearing a traffic stop when they observed an ORV coming down the road toward them. Upon seeing the emergency lights, the ORV suddenly turned around and headed in the opposite direction. CO Killingbeck noted that the ORV had no working brake lights and was not displaying an ORV sticker. The COs caught up to the ORV operator who had ducked down a two track, and asked him what he was up to. The operator admitted that he turned around after seeing the emergency lights because he was suspended and knew he was not supposed to be driving. The COs arrested the operator but allowed him to call a friend who could take possession of his ORV, in lieu of towing. The "friend" arrived and CO Killingbeck checked his driving status and found the alternate driver's license was expired. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Josiah Killingbeck observed a boat with four subjects fishing in Lake County. As he approached the vessel, three subjects set their fishing gear down and began undressing to go swimming. CO Killingbeck pulled up and asked for fishing licenses and the oldest male onboard stated that nobody had fishing licenses but him, and said that they were all family; father, mother, son and daughter. After getting ID from everyone, the father asked the CO if they were getting warnings or if everyone was going to jail, advising he preferred a "one for three" deal in either instance.

CO Kyle Publiski and Sgt. Carla Soper were working a patrol at the Silver Lake Dunes when they stopped a driver for operating without a seatbelt. They ran the driver through

LEIN and found his driving status to be suspended out of Illinois. They also ran the plate on the vehicle and found it was expired. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Kyle Publiski and PCO Joshua Jackson policed three accidents while patrolling at Silver Lake Dunes, two resulting in serious injuries. One subject jumped a hill and went 30 feet in the air before crashing to the ground. A second incident involved an operator who had his leg caught between the foot peg and the wheel on his four wheel ATV. The COs were able to provide initial care to the victims until medical personnel arrived.

CO Kyle Publiski was sent to a complaint of a disturbance at Indian Bridge in Mason County. The caller advised that there was a belligerent, drunk subject trying to fight with people. When CO Publiski arrived, he found a truck blocking the roadway. Apparently the subject causing the disturbance had been driving drunk and hit a guardrail. The intoxicated subject had been trying to pick fights with people at the access and also had solicited a minor child for immoral purposes. While conducting his investigation, CO Publiski recalled dealing with this subject the year prior for snagging and recalled that he was belligerent that day as well. CO Publiski arrested the man for disorderly and is seeking charges on the drunk driving offense and the immoral conduct involving the minor. The subject was lodged at the Mason County Jail.

CO Brian Brosky and PCO Chad Baldwin were working a patrol on the Pere Marquette River when they observed two individuals snagging. They approached the anglers and found that one had illegal gear with weight below the hooks and was also fishing without baited hooks. While taking enforcement action, a boat on plane came through the nowake portion of the river. They were able to stop the subject who was operating the boat and he advised that he had no idea that rule existed.

CO Brian Brosky and PCO Chad Baldwin were working a routine ORV patrol in Lake County when they observed two ORVs operating together, both in a closed area. As the operators neared the patrol vehicle, the ORV to the rear turned around and headed back in the direction he came from. The COs attempted to catch up to the ORV without success. Shortly thereafter, they heard the Lake County Sheriff Department pursuing an ORV that met the same description as the one that they had lost eye contact with earlier. As they relayed information by radio to dispatch, CO Josiah Killingbeck advised he was sure he had written that individual earlier in the day and had the address of the subject. The COs went to the address and it led them to the same location where the deputy ended his pursuit. They were able to identify the ORV as the one that they had seen earlier and he admitted that he had seen their patrol vehicle and turned around to avoid being caught, which resulted in the pursuit with the Lake County Sheriff Department deputies. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Brian Brosky and PCO Chad Baldwin were dispatched to a complaint of a bear being shot illegally the night prior. The suspect had allegedly killed the bear because it was hanging around his yard. When the COs arrived at the suspect's residence, they were able to locate the 135 pound male bear and received a full confession from that individual. Charges are pending.

COs Steve Converse, Sam Koscinski, Sgt. Mike Bomay, and PCO Patrick Hartsig were working a patrol at Hardy Gras in Newaygo County when they witnessed a PWC being operated carelessly. They stopped the two individuals onboard, and after checking them in LEIN, ascertained that the driver had a felony warrant for a narcotics violations and that the passenger also had three outstanding misdemeanor warrants. Both subjects were lodged at the county jail.

COs Steve Converse, Sam Koscinski, Sgt. Mike Bomay, and PCO Patrick Hartsig stopped a pontoon boat at the Hardy Gras Festival for operating without lights and discovered the operator didn't have any PFDs onboard. While on the stop, a second pontoon pulled up, and asked what was going on, as they were friends with the other boaters. The COs then asked them for PFDs and found that boat also had an insufficient number on board. Both vessel operators were issued tickets for the marine safety violation.

CO Steve Converse and PCO Patrick Hartsig were working a fish patrol along the Manistee River when they located an angler who was snagging. They watched the individual fish for a while and witnessed him smoking marijuana, drinking beer and littering. When they approached the angler, they obtained identification and also realized that the individual was less than 21 years of age, had no fishing license and also was using illegal gear. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Steve Converse and PCO Patrick Hartsig were working a shift at Tippy Dam and were watching a couple who were fishing. The male was snagging and using illegal gear. They watched as the angler foul hooked a fish and landed it. To avoid being caught with the foul hooked fish, the male brought the netted fish up to a clump of bushes where he thought he could get the hook out undetected. Unfortunately both COs were sitting directly behind the foliage and were able to completely surprise the anglers. The COs seized his 12 pound steelhead and issued a ticket for snagging.

CO Steve Converse and PCO Patrick Hartsig went down to the Little Manistee Weir just after dark and saw lights moving around in front of the weir. As they moved to a better vantage point, they realized that there was a "lookout" in a motor vehicle who was focused on a cell phone and not paying attention to the fact that they were there. Officers were able to position behind the three subjects who were snagging and netting in the 300 foot closed section of the river. The COs made contact and asked why they were fishing there. The subjects claimed they were informed by a bait shop two weeks ago that the area was open to fishing. The COs advised that two weeks ago the Little Manistee River was open, but that snagging and netting is never allowed, especially in the 300 foot portion. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Steve Converse and PCO Patrick Hartsig were checking a subject at a boat launch on Manistee Lake. The COs asked the boat owner if he had caught any fish and he stated that he had two bluegill and one brown trout on board. When the COs checked the brown trout, they told the angler that it was undersized. The angler said that he

thought the fish had to be 10 inches in the Big Manistee River where he had caught it. The COs advised him that they had to be 15 inches, and even if the law allowed him to keep them at 10 inches, the fish was still over half an inch short. The fish was seized and a ticket was issued.

CO Steve Converse and PCO Patrick Hartsig were checking sections along the Big Manistee River when they observed a truck in the parking lot with a spear visible hanging from the vehicle. The COs watched the anglers associated with the vehicle and caught up to them just as they were packing up to leave. The COs didn't make contact with them at this point. Later on in the day, they came across the same vehicle parked on the Little Manistee River in the closed section. The officers located the occupants and after a short surveillance issued tickets for fishing in closed waters.

CO Steve Converse and PCO Patrick Hartsig were working a patrol on Manistee Lake after dark when they observed two anglers in a boat fishing with weight suspended below hooks. They approached the anglers and addressed the issue. The anglers were adamant that they thought it was only illegal to fish that way in the Manistee River, but legal in the lake. The officers advise them otherwise and tickets were issued.

COs Troy VanGelderen and Ben Shively of Oceana County provided instruction for Hunters Safety to 25 students at the Ruby Creek Conservation Club.

CO Troy VanGelderen of Oceana County and PCO Tyler Cole were working the Muskegon River when they found some people fishing along shore. When checking for licenses one subject was discovered to have a warrant for his arrest for not appearing in court for a previous conservation violation. He was arrested and lodged in the Oceana County Jail.

CO Troy VanGelderen of Oceana County was working the Muskegon River when he was flagged down by a concerned mother whose son had cut his foot badly on a rock. CO VanGelderen cleaned the wound and provided first aid, and gave instructions to head to the emergency room and the local hospital for stitches.

COs Ben Shively and Troy VanGelderen of Oceana County were working the Hot Boat/Hardy Gras marine event when they observed a boat drifting with three males and three females aboard. All three of the males were punching and choking each other while the females were trying to stop them. Officers boarded the boat to break up the fight with the subjects admitting they were all friends, but had way too much to drink, when one of them "snapped". It was determined that no one could drive the boat due to alcohol consumption, so it was towed to shore with the occupants ordered to remain stationary and sleep it off. Officers periodically checked the vessel and occupants during the evening to assure peace was kept.

CO Mike Wells of Newaygo County and PCO William Kinney were on marine patrol when the officers observed a smaller watercraft with fishing gear operating on the lake. Officers observed that several of the characters of the registration were missing and a

stop was made on the vessel. All three subjects were fishing and it was determined that none of the anglers had their fishing license in possession. Inspection of the registration revealed an expired 2013 Wisconsin registration. Upon interviewing the operator he revealed that he had purchased the watercraft from a friend about a month earlier. The operator failed to transfer the registration into his name. A ticket was issued for unregistered watercraft and verbal warnings were issued regarding the fishing without a license in possession after it was confirmed that the subjects had purchased current year licenses.

CO Mike Wells of Newaygo County and PCO William Kinney were on marine patrol during the Hot Boat Festival. The officers received a complaint of a small watercraft leaving an area boat launch with no PFDs. The vessel was located in the middle of the lake and determined to be a nine foot dingy with five adults aboard. Officers made contact and inquired as to the PFDs. Several of the subjects responded that five PFDs were aboard. Upon closer examination by the officers it was determined that only four PFDs were present and that the capacity of the dingy was four people, adding a capacity violation to the operator. A ticket was issued for the failure to provide PFDs with a warning issued for the capacity violation. The officers gave the vessel an escort back to the launch and three of the occupants found another ride out to the festival.

CO Mike Wells of Newaygo County and PCO William Kinney had conducted an investigation of an incident where a subject had exposed his buttocks to a neighbor earlier this month during a dispute over activities along a lakeshore. A warrant was issued regarding the indecent exposure and the subject was arrested on the warrant. Several days after this subject was arrested the same complainant was in her yard and observed the suspect mowing his grass. When she turned back to look at him, he stopped mowing, dropped his pants and exposed his buttocks to her again laughing after the exposure. Officer Wells was contacted again and report was completed for review by the Newaygo County Prosecutor's Office.

CO Angela Greenway of Mecosta County was contacted by a civilian who found a dog that had been hit by a car and left. The dog was barely alive and the civilian could not make contact with the dog's owner. CO Greenway assisted the civilian in getting the dog to the vet, where later the owners were reached and care could be given to the dog. Unfortunately, the dog sustained too serious of injuries to be saved. The owners were very appreciative of all efforts in rending aid to their pet.

Sgt. Michael Bomay was working waterfowl hunters during the early goose season and observed several geese harvested by the group. Upon making contact with the hunters it was discovered that one of the hunters was in possession of lead shot and rifled slugs. The same hunter failed to purchase his waterfowl license as well. Enforcement action was taken.

Sgt. Michael Bomay along with COs Sam Koscinski and Steve Converse were on patrol for Hot Boat Festival and made contact with a PWC with two occupants that was operating at greater than slow, no-wake speed within a 100 ft. from an anchored vessel.

The PWC operator had multiple misdemeanor warrants for his arrest and the passenger had a felony warrant for possession of heroin. The second subject was arrested and lodged on his warrant while the operator was advised and released per dispatch.

Sgt. Michael Bomay, along with COs Sam Koscinski and Steve Converse of Manistee County were working the Hot Boat Festival and contacted two pontoon boats operating with no navigation lights. Both vessels failed to provide sufficient PFDs for the number of occupants aboard and the operator of one vessel had multiple warrants for his arrest. He was lodged in the Newaygo County Jail.

Sgt. Michael Bomay was working the Hot Boat Festival and observed a subject throw a full can of beer at his friend that was not looking in that direction, striking him in the back. The can of beer landed in the water and sank to the bottom of the river. The subject quickly grabbed another full beer and was getting ready to throw another one when Sgt. Bomay made contact with the intoxicated individual and issued a ticket for littering.

# **DISTRICT 5**

While investigating a complaint of ORVs driving recklessly on a county road, one of the suspects without a helmet sped past CO Mark Papineau at a high rate of speed. CO Papineau was able to conduct a traffic stop on the ORV. As the contact progressed, another one of the suspects, also not wearing a helmet, began to power slide through the intersection on a second ORV. When that subject saw CO Papineau's emergency lights and his friend standing on the shoulder of the road, he quickly turned around and sped off at a high rate of speed. CO Papineau was able to catch up with him and both subjects were issued tickets.

CO Steve Lockwood and Sgt. Jon Wood conducted a late night marine patrol over the Labor Day Holiday weekend on Wixom Lake in Gladwin County. Just before midnight, a pontoon with several subjects began motoring across the lake without required rear navigation lights. As the officers approached, they watched as the operator picked up a battery operated light and held it above his head. Upon contact, the officers' investigation led them to arrest the operator for operating under the influence of alcohol. The operator was at twice the legal limit. On the way to the county jail, the subject admitted that this was his second offense for the same violation. It turns out that CO Lockwood was involved with his arrest several years earlier....same offense, same lake.

CO Nick Atkin was able to check several waterfowl hunters during the early goose and Teal season. After watching a group of hunters, the officer was able to make contact with one hunter who was hunting with an unplugged firearm. In addition, the hunter had failed to purchase the necessary federal waterfowl stamp. Enforcement action was taken.

During a similar patrol, CO Nick Atkin checked a group of waterfowl hunters. During the check, he found that the hunters were missing some of their federal stamps, failed to

sign the stamps that they did have, and were using a vessel without the required registration numbers. Officer Atkin took enforcement action.

While on patrol CO John Huspen and PCO Matt Zultak were called to a complaint of a hawk sitting on the hood of a semi-tractor. The hawk had been hit by the semi and was perched on the hood near the windshield when the officers arrived. PCO Zultak climbed a ladder and was able to place a blanket over the hawk, and then place it in a cardboard box. The hawk was transported to a rehabilitator in Roscommon County, and at last report was doing great.

While patrolling Crawford County, CO John Huspen and PCO Matt Zultak observed a pickup truck operating without a license plate. The COs stopped the vehicle, and the operator advised the officers that he "does not enter into contracts with the government." Upon further investigation it was determined the subject did not have a driver's license, no insurance on the unregistered truck and he was driving with a suspended license. The subject had five warrants for his arrest. Enforcement action was taken.

CO John Huspen and local deputies were advised of an injured eagle along I-75. CO Huspen determined the eagle had suffered an injury to its left wing. The CO observed the bird until the rehabilitator arrived with the proper equipment to attempt to capture it. When CO Huspen and the rehabilitator approached the injured eagle, it attempted to fly away. It started to fly back into traffic on I-75, but landed near a deputy who was able to capture it in a long handled net. Upon last report, the eagle was headed to MSU for surgery on the wing.

CO John Huspen and Sgt. Jeremy Payne assisted the Crawford County Sheriff Department deputies with traffic at an accident scene where there was a full extraction taking place. The driver of one of the vehicles was airlifted to Traverse City for additional care. All the first responders did a great job, helping the subjects involved and giving medical care as well as making the scene safe.

CO Mike Hearn and PCO Matt Zultak assisted with a Hunter Safety Class in Kalkaska. PCO Zultak instructed on laws and ethics. The officers also assisted in running the 75 students through the shotgun and rifle range.

CO Matt Liestenfeltz stopped a vehicle traveling at a high rate of speed and found the driver operating without a valid license in his possession. Two passengers were identified and further investigation revealed the occupants were in possession of marijuana. The evidence was seized and appearance dates were given.

Before the opener of early goose season, conservation officers received an anonymous complaint of hunters planning on rallying geese with golf carts on a local golf course near Houghton Lake. Early on the morning of the season opener CO Chuck McPherson, PCO Casey Pullum and Sgt. Jeremy Payne set up near the golf course to observe the activity. The COs witnessed hunters dressed in camouflage driving around

the golf course with uncased shotguns looking for geese to harvest. Upon hearing them shoot, the COs contacted the suspects, who took a total of four geese while rallying them with a motor vehicle. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Brian Olsen received a complaint from Ogemaw Central Dispatch involving ORVs tearing up the area near Lake Ogemaw. While in the area, CO Olsen witnessed a side-by-side operating on the roadway, but didn't see an ORV license. After conducting a traffic stop on the vehicle and contacting the driver, he smelled a heavy odor of intoxicants. The driver admitted to drinking alcohol and field sobriety tests were given. It was also determined that the driver did not have a valid operator's license. He was eventually arrested for operating while intoxicated and operating on a suspended license. He was lodged in the Ogemaw County Jail.

While on patrol, CO Brian Olsen observed a mini-van about 100 feet off the roadway that had crashed into some trees. While checking the vehicle and the safety of the occupants, CO Olsen smelled intoxicants coming from inside. After running a file check on the driver, it was determined that she didn't have a valid operator's license and also had an outstanding warrant for her arrest. With assistance from COs Kyle Bader and Brad Silorey, the driver was eventually put through field sobriety tests and arrested. She was charged with driving while license suspended and operating while intoxicated, third offense.

COs Kyle Bader and Brad Silorey responded to a complaint of an ORV tearing up the road near Skidway Lake. The officers located the section of road that had been rutted up from careless ORV operation. When they asked the suspect if he had been doing "doughnuts" in the road, he said, "Yeah, but only in front of my house." That statement proved to be false because evidence showed that he used about one-quarter mile of road to "play on." Enforcement action was taken.

COs Kyle Bader and Brad Silorey observed two ORVs sitting at the intersection of a road and an ORV trail. When the riders saw the officers, they hurried and took off onto the trail. The officers thought the behavior was suspicious and were able to make it to the next intersection before the riders. The riders were surprised when they pulled up to find the COs waiting for them. Both riders were operating unlicensed ORVs. Enforcement action was taken.

COs Kyle Bader and Brad Silorey observed two ORV operators who were not wearing helmets. The ORVs were stopped and during a discussion, the COs learned that the subjects were baiting deer stands prior to the legal start date. Law enforcement action was taken.

While checking Tuttle Marsh in Iosco County, CO Jonathan Warner observed two subjects who appeared to be waterfowl hunting. One of the subjects instantly admitted to hunting without any licenses, but the other subject denied hunting at all. When CO Warner noticed another firearm hidden underneath a tarp, the second subject admitted to also hunting without licenses. Further investigation determined one of the shotguns

was unplugged and capable of holding more than three shells. Enforcement action was taken.

COs Warren MacNeill, Bobbi Lively, Shannon Kritz and Josh Russell played a significant role in the annual hunter safety course held at Harrisville State Park in Alcona County. The COs presented classroom material on hunting laws, firearm safety, and assisted students on the shooting range. Approximately 75 students attended the event and learned a lot of material in two days.

While patrolling state land for ORV activity, CO Josh Russell received a suicidal complaint through losco Central Dispatch. CO Russell responded and assisted Oscoda Township Police Department with the search which led them through the woods. CO Russell located witnesses who had let the subject use their cell phone. They provided CO Russell with a better location to search and the subject was eventually found in a local beach area. After making contact with the individual, he was turned over to Oscoda Township Police Department and taken home.

# **DISTRICT 6**

COs Craig Neal, Quincy Gowenlock and Dan Lee were patrolling the Saginaw River when they observed a man on a boat "mooning" another vessel. The officers contacted the indecent man and the operator of the boat he was on. After addressing the pair about their behavior, it was obvious that the driver had too much to drink. When asked if he had been drinking the man stated that he had had about 15 beers. After failing sobriety tests and being placed under arrest for marine OUIL, the man told the officers that he had heard if you don't lie to police about how much you have had to drink they will let you off. He was lodged for the violation.

CO Quincy Gowenlock received a complaint from Wildlife staff at the Saint Charles Field Office of possible marijuana plants growing on state land. The CO responded to the suspected location and conducted a thorough search and located five 5 gallon camo painted buckets hidden behind large pine trees containing seven 4 feet high marijuana plants. The plants and buckets were seized.

CO Chad Foerster contacted a group of goose hunters as they were packing up after their hunt. The CO found one of the hunters had an unplugged shotgun. Enforcement action was taken.

COs Chad Foerster and Will Brickel assisted Nayanquing Point staff with their annual Youth Waterfowl Day. The youths and adults were able to ask the COs questions, along with drawings and give-a-ways for the youths with some nice waterfowl gear. There was also the hunter safety trailer on scene where the youths were able to shoot at computer generated waterfowl hunting scenarios.

COs Kyle Bucholtz and Jason Smith assisted COs from Ogemaw County with an illegal bear kill. COs Bucholtz and Smith located the suspect at a family member's home and

interviewed that suspect. A confession was obtained. The bear carcass and fur were recovered as well as additional evidence. The case is ongoing.

While on routine patrol, CO Kyle Bucholtz observed a disabled four-wheeler sitting in the middle of a road with two subjects standing nearby. The adult driver was accompanied by a seven year old. Both subjects had been riding the four-wheeler together when the ORV quit. Upon speaking further with the subjects, it was learned they were on a public road with no helmets and an unregistered ORV. The subjects returned home safely after enforcement action was taken.

CO Kyle Bucholtz assisted the Huron County Sheriff's office with locating a suspicious vehicle. Upon locating two subjects inside the parked vehicle, CO Bucholtz noted both subjects appeared impaired. The driver and passenger both openly admitted to possessing marijuana and prescription pills. CO Bucholtz seized multiple baggies of marijuana, prescription pills and drug paraphernalia. The evidence was turned over to the Huron County Sheriff's office. The investigation continues.

While checking waterfowl hunters during the early goose and teal season CO Seth Rhodea set up observation on group of hunters in Sanilac County. Within minutes of starting the observation, CO Rhodea observed the hunters shoot at Sandhill cranes and other non-targetable birds. CO Rhodea continued watching the hunters until after shooting time ended and watched all the hunters shoot a mallard duck after hours. When contact was made with hunters they were all found with their guns still loaded and one firearm was later found to be able to hold more than three rounds. Multiple tickets were issued for hunting waterfowl after hours, attempting to take unauthorized birds and unplugged shotgun.

While on patrol CO Seth Rhodea observed a large amount of black smoke coming from the yard of a residence. CO Rhodea pulled in just as the homeowner was about to throw a mattress on the fire. After contacting the homeowner it was discovered that multiple mattresses had already been burned prior to the CO's arrival. A ticket was issued for illegal disposal of solid waste and the fire was extinguished by the homeowner prior to CO Rhodea clearing the scene.

CO Seth Rhodea stopped an ORV being operated on a county road after observing the operator and passenger not wearing helmets, riding double on an ORV only designed for one rider and for not having a valid ORV license. After contact was made a ticket was issued to address the violations.

CO Seth Rhodea received a complaint of hunters who had driven their vehicle into a closed area to hunt waterfowl at the Fish Point managed waterfowl area. Upon responding to the area with CO Robert Hobkirk the officers were able to locate the vehicle and hunters in the managed area. Contact was made with two hunters who were both under the legal age for hunting by themselves. The juveniles told the COs multiple versions of why there was not an adult with them before finally admitting to coming out to hunt by themselves after their grandfather did not want to go because it

was raining. Contact was made with the grandfather who admitted he knew the boys were hunting without an adult. Tickets were issued to address the underage hunting violations and operating a motor vehicle in a closed area.

CO Jason A. Smith checked a group of waterfowl hunters during youth weekend. They were unregistered and hunting in the Fish Point managed area. They also had an extra mallard. After talking with the 21 year old hunter, verbal warnings were given.

CO Jason A. Smith doubled up with CO Seth Rhodea and investigated a large water storage unit (about 12000 gallons) that was buried in the state game area. Trail cameras were seized and videos were looked at. Upon follow up, the container was buried so hunting equipment could be stored in it rather than carried out nightly. The container is now being removed.

On the morning of the early teal season opener COs Seth Rhodea and Bob Hobkirk observed two hunters shoot at birds 20 minutes prior to the shooting time for teal. Both subjects were ticketed for the violation.

COs Bob Hobkirk and Kyle Bucholtz assisted local deputies with a suicidal subject in the Rush Lake State Game Area (SGA). The subject was contacted and taken into protective custody without incident. Two loaded handguns were removed from his vehicle.

While working on Saginaw Bay along the west side of Huron County, COs Seth Rhodea, Bob Hobkirk and Sgt. Tom Brown contacted a number of individuals out hunting teal. Officers encountered a number of waterfowl violations and issued tickets for possession of lead shot, loaded firearm in a boat while under power, unplugged firearm, taking of a protected species, and no state waterfowl license. Additionally, officers checked an angler and found him to be fishing with more than three lines. He was also ticketed for the violation.

While patrolling the east side of Huron County, CO Bob Hobkirk checked a group of goose hunters in a field. One hunter was hunting with an unplugged firearm and another hadn't purchased a federal waterfowl stamp. Both individuals were ticketed for the violations.

A short while later, CO Bob Hobkirk observed an ORV travelling down the road and the operator was not wearing a helmet. The operator had a firearm strapped to the back of the ORV and a Canada goose strapped to the front. During the contact it was determined that the individual had no licenses to hunt waterfowl, he was hunting with toxic shot and his firearm was unplugged. He was ticketed for the toxic shot violation and for taking a goose with no license. Warnings were given for the additional violations.

On Labor Day, the first goose hunters CO Bob Hobkirk checked resulted in an individual being ticketed for hunting waterfowl with no federal waterfowl stamp. He was warned for

not having a base license or a state waterfowl license. The next goose hunters checked, who were less than two miles away, resulted in one hunter being ticketed for baiting waterfowl and warned for not having his state waterfowl license.

CO Joshua Wright was patrolling state land in Tuscola County when he discovered a closed trail that was being torn up by ORVs. CO Wright followed the tracks and located an ORV. When he made contact with the driver he discovered that the driver was also suspended from driving. Enforcement action was taken.

#### DISTRICT 7

COs Matt Page, Saykham Keophalychanh and Steve Mooney patrolled Lake Michigan over the weekend making over 80 contacts during the patrol. The COs issued seven tickets, including five for fishing with too many lines, one for fishing without a license, and one for a 40 foot unregistered watercraft that had never paid sales tax. One of the boats was fishing eight lines for two individuals and one of the individuals was not licensed to fish. COs also issued two verbal warnings for minor marine safety violations.

CO Andy Bauer and Sgt. Zachary Doss followed up on information from DNR Fisheries Division regarding a charter boat operator who had not met fish catch reporting requirements all year. The charter boat operator from St. Joseph was ticketed for the violation.

CO Matt Page, while working the early teal season, observed a group of hunters on the Kinney Waterfowl Production Area. CO Page met the hunters at their vehicles at the end of their hunt. One of the subjects was hunting with an unplugged firearm. A ticket was issued for the violation.

CO Brad Brewer and PCO Ben McAteer observed two vessels with numerous subjects fishing. One of the boats had three subjects on the boat, all three of whom were fishing without licenses. The boat was also unregistered and they had no PFDs aboard. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Saykham Keophalychanh located a pile of trash at a public access site. CO Keophalychanh was able to locate information that led to the subject who dumped the trash and a ticket was issued for littering.

CO Brad Brewer and PCO Ben McAteer were on patrol when they observed a vehicle in a field with tree stands in the back and buckets of apples sitting on the ground. They parked down the road and made contact with the subjects when they entered the roadway and observed numerous violations, including operating ORVs on a road, an uncased gun in the vehicle and the subjects admitted to baiting deer early. An examination of the baited site revealed 50 lbs. of corn and some apples at the stand. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Matt Page, while patrolling VanAuken Lake observed a boat on the water without any MC number or registration decal. After making contact with the owner of the boat it was explained to CO Page that he did not like the way the MC numbers or registration decals looked on his boat so he decided not to put them on. Additionally, the boat had not been registered since 2012. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Brad Brewer and PCO Ben McAteer stopped two ORVs being operated on a public roadway. It was discovered that an adult father and his child were on one of the ORVs and his 12 year old son was operating the second ORV with all of the subjects failing to wear helmets. The father was ticketed for two ORV violations.

COs Andy Bauer and Steve Mooney conducted a patrol on Lake Michigan from St. Joseph and located two subjects fishing without licenses and one boat with a single angler using five lines. Tickets were issued for the violations.

CO Andy Bauer and Sgt. Zach Doss were checking anglers at the Berrien Springs dam, when one of the anglers stated that there was a subject claiming to have a broken leg, lying by the rip rap. The subject was located and found to have a minor injury from a fall and was also found to be highly intoxicated. The subject was examined by ambulance personnel and was subsequently turned over to his wife, who provided a ride home.

CO Matt Page was checking the School Section Lake public access when a vehicle pulled in and the occupants began acting suspiciously. A traffic stop was initiated on the vehicle for no brake lights. It was found that the operator had a suspended license due to a medical issue involving frequent seizures. The operator stated that she drives regularly even with her condition. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Brad Brewer and PCO Ben McAteer responded to a report of a vessel in distress on the St. Joseph River and located the boat pulled up on shore. In addition to motor problems with the boat, the subjects had thrown a large number of beer cans and bottles into the river. A subject was ticketed for littering and the officers towed the boat back to the owner's dock.

COs Robert Crisp and Rick Cardenas responded to the Mill Pond in Barry County after receiving a complaint involving an injured swan. Once on scene the officers contacted some waterfowl hunters at the boat launch. After a quick check one of the hunters was found to be hunting without proper licenses. Enforcement action was taken and the hunter was educated on other rules and laws related to waterfowl hunting.

CO Mike Mshar conducted a waterfowl patrol during the early teal and goose season on the Kalamazoo River in Allegan County. During the patrol he contacted a group of hunters after watching them take a wood duck and attempt to take ducks prior to shooting hours. The hunters claimed that they believed the wood duck to be a teal and further, that they were not aware of the legal hunting times. The hunters were also short on PFDs. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Mike Mshar represented the DNR Law Enforcement Division in the annual Allegan County Torch Run for Special Olympics. CO Mshar opened the ceremonies for the run and then ran alongside several of the area's Special Olympic athletes. CO Chuck Towns and retired CO Dave Van't hof also participated in the event.

CO Chuck Towns assisted MSP with a fugitive search in the Allegan SGA. The subject was wanted on a charge of domestic violence and was threatening suicide by cop. The wanted subject ended up being pushed out of the woods by a K-9 unit and was ultimately tased by a deputy after failing to submit to arrest.

### **DISTRICT 8**

CO Jeff Goss assisted with tracking a man that ran from his car after being involved in a vehicle pursuit with the MSP. The subject, who was also wanted on multiple warrants, led a MSP trooper on a pursuit through city streets and then through a bean field, prior to leaving his car and running across two lanes of traffic on I-94. A K-9 unit was immediately dispatched to the scene and took up the track of the fleeing subject. Due to extreme heat and thick terrain, three different K-9s ran a four hour relay race to eventually catch up to the subject. The subject was captured and lodged on multiple charges.

COs Jeff Goss and Jason McCullough worked the Randall Lake chain in Branch County. Activity was steady and some fish were being caught. Two warnings were issued and tickets were issued for possession of undersized pike, fishing without a license and unregistered vessel.

CO Shane Webster and PCO Jason King conducted a follow up on a complaint of an illegally taken deer harvested with a firearm by a convicted felon during the 2014 season. With very little information and evidence, PCO King and CO Webster conducted a thorough interview which led to a confession and seizure of an 11 point rack.

CO Todd Thorn and PCO Mark Siemen were patrolling for fish and game activity when they observed a possible domestic violence situation in a vehicle in front of them. A traffic stop and investigation was conducted. The officers found that the operator was a 20 year old male, and the passenger was a 14 year old female. Marijuana was located inside the vehicle as well. Enforcement action was taken against the driver, and the juvenile was transported to her residence where her parents were contacted and informed of the situation.

CO Todd Thorn and PCO Mark Siemen were on a foot patrol along the Grand River in Lansing and contacted two individuals, one of whom was fishing. The officers found that the subject did not have a fishing license, and also had a felony and misdemeanor warrant. A subject who was with the angler, but not fishing, also had a warrant and was lodged in the Lansing jail.

CO Todd Thorn and PCO Mark Siemen conducted a kayak patrol of the Grand River, and made over a dozen contacts. They also issued a ticket for fishing without a license and gave three verbal warnings for no PFDs in kayaks.

CO Todd Thorn and PCO Mark Siemen were on patrol when they observed a man on a dirt bike popping a wheelie on a paved road, not wearing a helmet. The COs pursued and stopped the subject. Upon contact the COs noted that the man had a brace on his wrist, and were told that he had recently broken his thumb on a dirt bike accident. The COs advised the man of the ORV violations, including careless operation. Enforcement action taken.

CO Todd Thorn and PCO Mark Siemen patrolled over 60 miles in Eaton and Ingham Counties on dirt bikes, and made over 30 contacts, mostly fish and game related. They issued two fish without license tickets, and nine verbal warnings for various violations. During that time, one group of four women were found camping on state land without a permit and were told that they needed to pack up and leave before enforcement action was taken against them.

CO Pete Purdy left the District 8 office and decided to check a couple of popular Shiawassee County fishing spots. While patrolling to the first location CO Purdy observed a four wheeler being driven on the roadway with the operator not wearing a helmet or eye protection. The operator spotted CO Purdy and pulled into a party store parking lot and went inside. CO Purdy made contact with the operator when he came out of the store. The subject advised he only drove a short distance on the road to buy a pack of cigarettes. CO Purdy also pointed out that the subject wasn't wearing a helmet or eye protection. The subject advised he doesn't wear those items when he rides around his house. CO Purdy pointed out when the subject drove onto the roadway he was no longer at his house and that the machine was not properly licensed. Enforcement action taken.

CO Pete Purdy patrolled the Village of Byron and contacted two anglers at the dam. One angler was in possession of 23 bluegills. CO Purdy checked a second angler, with a bucket of bluegill nearby. The angler stated there were about 20 in the bucket. CO Purdy could tell by a quick glance inside the bucket there was over 20 bluegills in the bucket. CO Purdy also noticed a fish basket below the dam. The second angler also claimed the fish basket as well. The second angler was in possession of 52 bluegill total, 27 over the limit. Enforcement action taken.

CO Jason McCullough completed an investigation of three non-residents from Illinois who had been purchasing resident hunting and fishing licenses since 2003. They were using their cabin address in Harrison as their Michigan address. The father, mother, son team ended up paying over \$1100 in restitution to the State.

### **DISTRICT 9**

COs Al Schwiderson, Ben Lasher, Kris Kiel, Chris Knights, and PCO Dan Robinson all worked the Woods and Water Show in Imlay City this year. The annual event/expo was very busy and attended by many at the Imlay City State Fairgrounds. The COs were on hand to man the DNR booth, answer questions and mingle with the public.

During the Labor Day marine patrol, COs Kris Kiel, Ken Kovach, PCO Matt Neterer, and PCO Dan Robinson made many marine contacts. The COs also contacted three subjects in a boat. The COs observed two of them fishing prior to their approach. When asked for their licenses one of the individuals said that he did not have his fishing license or driver's license, but they were in the car. When pressed further he told the COs that he had not purchased a license. Enforcement action was taken.

During a Labor Day marine patrol, COs Kris Kiel, Ken Kovach, PCO Matt Neterer, and PCO Dan Robinson responded to an overturned PWC with three riders. The two children were brought into the patrol boat and the COs helped the adult driver get the Jet Ski upright. The COs escorted the family back to the boat launch where they could properly empty the water out of the PWC.

While traveling along the Clinton River, CO Kris Kiel and PCO Dan Robinson made contact with two anglers. The men had caught several fish, and one of them did not have a fishing license. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Kris Kiel and PCO Dan Robinson worked the early morning goose and teal opener. They made many good contacts, including one hunter who was hunting geese over two turkey decoys. Later in the morning, after receiving a report of a wood duck that was taken out of season, the COs made contact with the individuals responsible. One of the hunters had left his licenses at home, and both denied that they had taken any ducks. The COs asked about the wood duck and they said that they could not find it, but when pressed a little harder they said that they tossed it in the cattails. The wood duck was seized and enforcement action was taken.

CO Kris Kiel and PCO Dan Robinson, while patrolling the early season waterfowl opener came across one individual who was using a shotgun without a plugged magazine. Day two, the COs made contact with a waterfowl hunter who had lead shot shells mixed in with the steel, and one of the lead rounds was chambered. The COs also gave several warnings for no Michigan waterfowl licenses and unsigned federal stamps the first two days of the season.

While checking for waterfowl hunters hunting before shooting hours, CO Kris Kiel and PCO Dan Robinson made contact with a group of hunters who had sent up a volley of shots prior to the teal shooting hours. The COs checked their gear and asked if they had taken any ducks. They said they had taken a teal early in the morning. The COs reminded the group when the shots were heard, which was before the legal shooting hours for teal. The teal was seized and enforcement action was taken.

While on patrol on the St. Clair River, CO Ken Kovach and PCO Matthew Neterer conducted a marine safety check on a fishing boat. The anglers were sure that they had a fire extinguisher on board, but after checking every compartment of the boat, came up empty handed. After explaining the dangers of fire on the water, enforcement action was taken.

While on patrol on Lake St. Clair, CO Ken Kovach and PCO Matthew Neterer contacted a man fishing on a pontoon boat. When asked for his fishing license, the man immediately confessed that he was fishing without a license. He assured the COs that he purchases a fishing license every year and that he had never had any prior tickets from the DNR. After checking the man's license purchase history and for prior fish and game related tickets, it was discovered that the man hadn't purchased a fishing license in several years and had prior hunting violation tickets. Enforcement action taken

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While on an ORV patrol on the back roads of St. Clair County, CO Ken Kovach and PCO Matthew Neterer observed a four wheeler approaching them with a man standing up on the machine. A traffic stop was conducted for operating an ORV in the roadway and no helmet on an ORV. The man stated that he was traveling from his home to the property where he deer hunts to check his trail camera. It was also discovered that the man did not have an ORV sticker. The man stated that he has been riding ATVs since he was two years old so he didn't think it was a big deal. Enforcement action was taken.

While on an ORV patrol on the back roads of St. Clair County, PCO Matthew Neterer observed a four wheeler, a side-by-side and a moped in his rearview mirror in the roadway. The three machines appeared to be swerving and doing doughnuts. The COs were able to turn the patrol truck around and catch up with the ORVs. After conducting a traffic stop, it was discovered that an adult and two juveniles were operating the machines and lived in a nearby house. The adult on the four wheeler stated that he had just purchased the machine and was out for a test drive. He stated that he should have known better than to take it on the roadway without a helmet or ORV sticker. When questioned about his driving history he stated that he had a speeding ticket approximately six or seven years ago and that he had a clean record. A quick file check revealed that the man had a warrant out for his arrest for contempt of court. The agency holding the warrant advised and released the subject to appear in court. Enforcement action was taken for operating an ORV in the roadway.

CO David Schaumburger was checking anglers when he came across a gentleman who was fishing with four lines. Upon further contact, the CO also observed live gobies in the angler's minnow bucket and what looked to be an undersized bass on his stringer. The bass measured approximately 11 inches, much below the 14 inch legal size. The angler was aware he was breaking the rules, but thought it was ok because he did not catch the fish; stating it was given to him by another angler. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jason Becker and Sgt. Jason Smith were on marine patrol when they observed two individuals on a PWC with no PFDs. The COs made contact with the operator and also learned that the PWC had not been registered since 2013. The same operator was

ticketed by CO Richard Cardenas a month earlier for operating an unregistered vessel. Enforcement action taken

Sgt. Jason Smith and CO Jason Becker were working at Pontiac Lake and observed a man and a boy fishing from shore. Sgt. Smith contacted the gentleman and asked for his license. The man seemed confused and got out his driver's license. Sgt. Smith then asked the man for his fishing license. The man stated that he hadn't gotten around to buying one. The COs reminded the man that fishing licenses expire on March 31<sup>st</sup> each year and it was now September. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Schaumburger asked an angler for a fishing license while checking shore anglers near Lake Erie Metro Park. The angler replied it was in her car. CO Schaumburger asked for her identification so he could check the retail sales system and confirm if a valid fishing license was purchased for the 2015 season. The subject stated that she bought it from Meijer and she remembered paying \$20 for it. CO Schaumburger was unable to locate her fishing license with the aid of dispatch, and when the subject was questioned again, she stated, "I'm not going to lie, I did not buy one." Enforcement action was taken.

Sgt. Damon Owens and CO David Schaumburger was patrolling Pointe Mouillee SGA during the youth waterfowl hunt when they came across two hunters; neither had a plug in their shotgun. The older hunter stated that nobody ever made a big deal about it in Michigan, but they did in Florida when he lived there. The hunter then asked what the shell limit was for waterfowl stating, "Five? Six?" The hunters were educated on the laws, given a waterfowl digest to read, and enforcement action was taken.

Sgt. Damon Owens and CO Dan Walzak attended ceremonies with DNR LED Honor Guard team and other Color Guard law enforcement department members at the Fallen Hero memorial in Pontiac.

#### **BELLE ISLE**

CO Paul Higashi, while working at Belle Isle, responded to a complaint of a drowning victim on the beach. CO Higashi and MSP troopers relieved citizens attempting to revive the victim. The officers performed CPR until EMS arrived on scene. CO Higashi also assisted in the investigation of the incident.

Sgt. Dan Bigger responded to a call from MSP dispatch while working Belle Isle indicating there was an individual on the MacArthur Bridge ready to jump. Sgt. Bigger responded to the location with COs Mendez, Ennett, and Keophalychanh. The subject was gone when officers arrived.

Sgt. Dan Bigger assisted a stranded motorist while working on Belle Isle. The motorist had a 4 bolt pattern spare tire he was trying to replace his 5 bolt pattern flat tire with. Sgt. Bigger assisted in checking the vehicle for another spare tire, located the 5 bolt

pattern spare, and assisted in changing the tire. The motorist was beyond thankful for the assistance.

Sgt. Damon Owens and CO Al Mendez were patrolling Belle Isle when they responded to a 911 complaint in reference to a bicyclist/pedestrian accident. Both subjects refused EMS. Sgt. Owens administered first aid to the pedestrian for a minor scrape on his arm.

While patrolling Belle Isle, COs Dan Walzak, Dave Schaumburger and a MSP trooper investigated a report of people in the water near the Detroit water intake. A helicopter had spotted the people and attempted to direct the officers in to make contact. At one time the officers were able to make their way to the water's edge and look down the shore in the direction of the intake but all they saw was a boat with four occupants. Asking the people if they had seen anyone in the water they responded that they had not. As the officers continued their attempt to locate the subjects they received information from dispatch that a vessel carrying the subjects had been stopped on the water.

While patrolling Belle Isle, CO Dan Walzak was flagged down by a couple at the beach who had located a very young child attempting to cross the street in heavy traffic – the child was lost. The little boy – about four years old – would not speak but would occasionally answer by nodding his head. After about a 30 minute search, the child recognized his mother from a distance and pointed to her. Making contact with the mother, she was told about how the child was found trying to cross the street. The mother was quite disturbed stating that she had left her son in the care of some other children. When CO Walzak asked how old the other children were the mother replied that the oldest was eight years old.

CO Dan Walzak made contact with a motorist on Belle Isle who had parked his vehicle "off the beaten path." The subject stated that he was living out of his car and was looking for a place to spend the night as he was travelling from Colorado to eastern Pennsylvania. The subject was advised that the plan wouldn't work and he would have to find a different location to get his rest. Out of curiosity, CO Walzak asked the motorist what route he was taking between Colorado and Pennsylvania. The motorist replied that he had been taking I-70 east. That being the case, the subject was over 200 miles off his route

CO Shane Webster and PCO Jason King worked a shift on Belle Isle. While conducting a fishing check, a LEIN hit was made on a subject with five misdemeanor traffic warrants out of 36th District Court.